**Introduction of Cyclic time Tables on Suburban Railway System**

2202. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will introduce more cyclic time tables on the Suburban railway system in the metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ease out peak hour traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To ease the problems of commuters during peak hours, more trains were intorduced and train load augmented w.e.f. July' 95 Time Table.

**Visit of French Premier to India**

2203. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level French delegation headed by French Prime Minister visited India in mid-June, 1995;

(b) if so , the details of the agreements and memoranda of understanding signed during their visit;

(c) whether any understanding for curbing international terrorism was reached; and

(d) what steps have been taken and are being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Diversification of Rail lines on Suburban Railway**

2204. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have addressed itself to the question of diversification of Railway lines on the suburban railway system to reduce overcrowding in trains and mitigate sufferings of commuters;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being taken to mitigate the sufferings of suburban commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The subject of Urban Railway Transport has been transferred to the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment under the Allocation of Business Rules. Coordination and Planning of the Transport infrastructures in Urban areas is to be done by Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment. Railways on its part has decided to introduce 10/12 car rake EMU trains, replacing the existing 9 car rakes to increase the carrying capacity of the EMU trains.

**Development of Inland Water Transportation**

2205. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the wake of environmental and economic considerations, the inland water transport sector has assumed importance; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to develop the inland water transportation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.